

PAIR ROB STATION, WRECK CAR IN GETAWAY, MAUL HOUSEWIFE

The Only Newspaper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance, Plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

Torrance Herald



OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

News & Adv. FA 8-4000

Circulation FA 8-4004

43rd Year—No. 26

12

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 1957

10¢ Per Copy

16 PAGE

Thomas Blasts State 'Roadblocks'

Improvements Slated at Park

The county will make some \$48,000 worth of improvements at El Nido Park before it is decided to Torrance, the Recreation Commission was informed Wednesday night.

Commissioners Herbert Albright, who has been studying the situation of the park, which is located in recently annexed El Nido, reported that \$20,000 worth of work is now under way and that an additional \$28,000 was expected soon.

At present, the county has let a contract which provides for grading and setting up baseball diamonds, while the second contract will provide a sprinkler system and restrooms.

The turnover was scheduled to be made on July 1. Since the county already has made plans for the sprinkler system and restrooms, the contract is expected to be let soon.

There is a possibility that more improvements might be made by the county if the city engineering staff could prepare the plans, Albright said.

In other action, the commission made plans for presentation of Robert L. Gold's final report on the recreation situation in Torrance. The report will be given at a joint meeting of the City Council and the Recreation Commission some time next month, and later at a meeting of interested community groups.

The report presumably will contain further information on the 132-acre tract in west Torrance now under discussion as a possible regional sports center for the county.

The commission also went on record as opposed to a recent resolution of the California League of Cities which asked that community recreation fund agreements revert to the old formula.

Under the new recreation fund proposal, Torrance and Los Angeles would be the only cities to get more money from the county, while other cities would receive less.

Channel Fencing Seen as Board Revises Policy

The Board of Supervisors has adopted a new policy on the fencing of flood control channels which would allow the fencing of large parts of the Dominguez Channel, according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

"If adoption of this new policy and fencing of the channel prevents the death of one child, it will certainly be worth while," Hahn, who introduced the measure, declared.

Area Studied
Flood control engineers now are studying several parts of the Dominguez Channel, including the section in Torrance, to see whether fences can be erected in accordance with the new policy. It is expected that definite recommendations for fencing of these parts will be made to the Supervisors by April 9, Hahn said.

The new policy, which is a considerable liberalization of that previously in effect, provides that fences may be built if:

1. An attractive nuisance exists, furnishing a hazard to life.
2. The flood control district has performed some channel work in the past which changed the former natural stream conditions.
3. Right-of-Way Needed
The Flood Control District has the right-of-way.
4. If the Flood Control District would normally construct fencing in the future in connection with planned permanent channel improvements, to prevent unauthorized encroachments of the rights-of-way and there is also a need to prevent encroachments at present.
5. Where subdivision of adjacent land does not appear imminent.

Sanitation Chief to Talk To Carson Group Tomorrow

D. W. Colfelt, area sanitation chief of the Los Angeles County Health Department, will discuss sanitation and health problems at the April meeting of the Carson Civic Betterment Assn. tomorrow night at the Women's Clubhouse, 127 E. 220th St. Ernest T. Winters, chief

9 SCHOOLS IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PLANNING

The building program of the Torrance Unified School District is moving full steam ahead, with nine new plants now in various stages of planning and a 10th scheduled to open in May, according to school officials.

Money for purchase of eight school sites has been set aside by the State Allocation Board, with a total of \$963,911 allocated on the basis of appraised valuation of the sites. All of these are in various stages of acquisition. A ninth site, Jefferson, near Talisman and Carson Sts., has been acquired by the district.

21 Schools Here
Three new schools—Flavian, Anza, and Jefferson—brought the number of elementary schools in town to 21, with the completion of Parkway School, Palos Verdes Blvd. and Calle Miramar, expected late next month. The opening of Parkway will mark completion of

field deputy to Supervisor Burton W. Chace, will be on hand to answer questions, according to J. R. Gateley, president. The Carson Civic Betterment Assn. was organized several years ago to promote civic welfare of the Carson area, Gateley explained.

Building Totals Hit \$1,238,695 Mark for March

Apartment and parochial school building furnished the biggest items in the \$1,238,695 building totals for March, according to Walter Bradford, senior clerk in the Building Department.

The March total brought the year's figures to \$4,869,235. At the same time last year, the city recorded \$14,602,415 in building permits.

Biggest single item in the totals was a \$156,974 permit for two eight-unit apartments at 18821 and 18907 Yukon Ave., taken out by Jacob Narrod.

Parochial school permits included \$56,237 for the First Lutheran Church at Carson and Flower, and \$50,000 for St. Catherine Labourer Catholic School at 3846 Redondo Beach Blvd. St. Andrew's Church took out a \$14,000 permit for additions to its sanctuary.

Apartment permits included \$65,000 for eight units at 309 Calle Miramar, presented by Frank Norris; \$49,473 for five units at 112 Palos Verdes Blvd. C. J. O'Gorman; \$44,000 for six units at 233 Calle Miramar, W. B. & L. Korach; and \$38,600 for units at 2244 Redondo Beach Blvd., Roy Lynd.

Burglars Get \$7

Burglars who broke into the Narbonne High School Library Friday got \$7 by prying open a locked drawer, sheriff's deputies reported.

Work Starts Soon

Other sites on which work is expected to start soon include Lincoln, 168th and Arlington Ave.; Franklin, near Ronald Ave. and Towers St.; Madison, 239th and Madison St.; and Adams, 238th and Arlington Ave.

The double session problem at six schools will be aided by the construction of additions at Hillside, Riviera, Arlington, Sepulveda, Anza, and Flavian Schools, bringing a total of 28 new classrooms into use later this year. These additions will be of a new, prefabricated steel construction.

South High School, now under construction, is expected to be completed in time for a September opening, bringing the number of high schools here to three. A fourth high school has been discussed, but no land has yet been obtained for it.

Gas Can Robbers Sought

An all-points manhunt for two crazed gunmen was launched here yesterday after the pair (1) robbed a service station at 225th and Western Ave., (2) wrecked their stolen auto at Carson St. and Harvard, (3) left the scene on foot although another motorist was injured, and (4) pummeled a housewife at 1308 W. 218th St. before stealing her car and fleeing.

Torrance police answered the first call Friday evening shortly after 4:15 p.m. when an employee at a helicopter repair service near 225th and Western Ave. called to say the station across the street had been robbed.

Had Gas Can

Twenty-year-old Bill Grondahl told police that one of the two suspects approached the station carrying a gasoline can while the second pretended to check the "stalled" auto nearby.

"Give me your payroll money," the bandit told Grondahl. When the victim resisted, he was hit on the head with the .38 caliber revolver carried by the suspect. The gun discharged as it hit him on the head, Grondahl told police. The bullet missed him.

Fled in Car

After felling the station attendant, the robber grabbed his wallet and fled in the car.

At Carson St. and Harvard, the auto collided with another. The two suspects fled on foot, leaving an injured driver at the scene.

A few minutes later, Mrs. Mazola Lewis, of 1308 W. 218th St., was accosted by the pair who came up to her just as she had backed her late model car out of the garage.

"We've just had an accident, and it's very urgent that we use your telephone," one suspect told her.

Woman Struck

Before she could say anything, they had her car. She grabbed one suspect by the tie, and was struck in the face. They fled east on 218th St. in the auto.

The auto wrecked at Carson and Harvard was stolen also, a check by Los Angeles Harbor Division police determined.

Pair Described

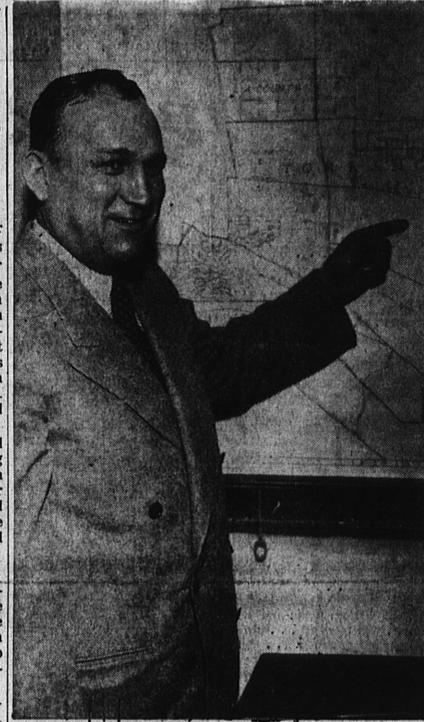
Descriptions broadcast by police yesterday said the first suspect was a white male American, about 40, 5 ft. 7 in., and 150 lbs.

The second was described as a white male American, possibly Mexican, age 28 to 30, 5 ft. 11 in. and weighing 200 lbs.

Two suspects apprehended near Gardena Friday night could not be identified with the case, police said.

Temperatures

	High	Low
Sunday	72	37
Monday	72	40
Tuesday	72	45
Wednesday	80	45
Thursday	80	45
Friday	71	50



ROADWAY SHORTAGE . . . Assemblyman Vincent Thomas blasted the State Division of Highways this week, saying the Southland was being shortchanged on highways. His comments came on the heels of a demand by Inter-City Highway Committee members that construction be speeded on freeways in this area.

Year-Round Use Of Pool Asked

The Torrance Recreation Commission recommended that the Torrance Municipal Plunge be kept open on a 12-month basis at its meeting Wednesday night.

After studying reports of a similar operation in Oakland, Calif., the commission Council that an appropriation for year-round operation of the pool be included in the next city budget.

Schools Might Cooperate

Commissioner Herbert Albright said that negotiations with the school district for financial aid should be investigated, since the schools might be interested in using the pool for swimming classes. The commission also studied plans for putting a windbreak along the west side of the open-air pool.

The pool itself will open on April 13 for week-end use, and will be open full time during

Easter vacation and the summer. It was opened last year. Permission for the YMCA to rent the pool for learn-to-swim classes during Easter vacation also was recommended by the commission. The YM requested use of the pool for four hours in the morning during April 15 to 19. Half-hour classes for about 40 boys are held in the shallow end of the pool, according to YMCA Secretary Joe Wilcox. Other swimmers will be able to use the pool at the same time, Recreation Director Harry Van Bellem said.

National 'Realtor Week' Opens

The Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors today begins its observance of national Realtor Week, joining hundreds of similar boards across the country in presenting the high aims and obligations of Realtors to the public, according to an announcement by Roy A. Shaw, president of the board.

Shaw explained that Realtors are those real estate brokers who have taken on the duty of providing individual and community services beyond the call of ordinary commerce. These obligations, immense and important to the persons

System Costs Million Here

Development of an adequate road system in Southern California is being blocked by the "high-handed" operations of State Division of Highway officials, Assemblyman Vincent Thomas charged this week.

Speaking at a luncheon meeting of the Los Angeles County legislators, the San Pedro Assemblyman said local road authorities had been trying for years to get 118 miles of Southland highways into the state highway system to qualify for State-Federal construction funds.

'That's It'

And, Thomas reported, when the division last Wednesday reported its five-year program, still without the major Southern California requests, highway officials told Los Angeles County legislators, "Gentlemen, that's it. That's all you'll get."

When Thomas asked why county and city engineers were not consulted about the development of a highway system in their own area, they replied "We don't have to," he reported to legislators.

Costs Millions

Thomas, who represents San Pedro, Wilmington, and Torrance in Sacramento, was joined by Lewis Arnold of the Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering before the Southland delegation. Arnold told the group that the state's attitude had cost the Southland millions of dollars a year in rights of way and construction costs.

A complete report on Southland road needs is being prepared by Thomas for the information of the legislators from this area, he said.

"We are not going to get any routes in Southern California unless we stick together," Thomas said.

Cities Seek Aid

Wednesday's meeting with the Division of Highways was held almost at the same time a delegation of officials from Torrance and other Southwest coastal cities was appearing before the State Highway Commission with demands for construction allocations for the San Diego Freeway, which is in the federal highway program.

The delegation returned this week, saying they were assured that their requests would receive consideration.

The 14 officials from this area who attended the Sacramento meeting Wednesday morning went as representatives of the Inter-City Highway Committee, whose membership is drawn from Torrance area cities.

adherence to a strict code of ethics that enables the public to place the utmost confidence in them in business transactions, but because as an organized group, they have been able to understand and work toward a solution of problem peculiar to their individual communities.

"To qualify for membership in the local and national organizations, a Realtor must have proven competence, an ability to understand and work toward a solution of problem peculiar to their individual communities.

"He points out that Realtors have distinguished themselves not merely because of their

Keene Ordered To Widen Study Of Gee Warrants

Assistant District Attorney William B. Keene will broaden his investigation of the bail warrant collections of J. A. C. Gee, upon instructions from the criminal complaints committee of the Los Angeles County Grand Jury, he reported yesterday.

Keene Tuesday presented his findings in the investigation of warrants which Gee collected for Torrance. After hearing the report, the Grand Jury committee moved that the "matter pend until broader aspect of the situation be developed by further investigation."

Gee also served as a bail collector for Culver City, Hermosa Beach, and Inglewood. Keene indicated that he will look into the warrants which Gee handled for those cities.

The previous investigation showed that 100 warrants issued by Torrance were missing, 93 of which had been given to Gee for collection. They were valued at \$3681, he said.

His office is continuing to receive complaints from persons who say they paid their bill to Gee, but whose money has never been received by the court, Keene said.

Rivierans to Seek Library

A branch library for the Hollywood Riviera area will be the topic of discussion at the Riviera Homeowners meeting Monday night at 8 p.m. at Riviera School.

The group previously requested a fourth Torrance branch be located in their area. The closest branch now is in Waltham.

Neil Whitney, who has been circulating petitions for a sewer district 3 (middle Riviera), will bring them to the meeting for signatures.